

WALLINGTON,
September 1,
1914.

All through our long correspondence, on the existence and character of which I set as high a value as on any possession of my life, I have never ventured to put forward anything in the shape of counsel or suggestion. And this for three reasons. I never find occasion to take exception to your views about public expediency and public morality; I have not detailed knowledge which would justify me in giving an opinion; and (to speak quite plainly) I was as unwilling to obtrude my advice on the chief ruler of the American Eepublic as upon the Czar of Eussia, if he had thought fit to write me a private letter.

But I have something special to tell you. In the course of the last nine or ten months I have been brought into singularly intimate relations with a new class of American friends belonging to the Democratic party; and I have entertained here) or have received long and spontaneous letters from, old friends and acquaintances of the Eepublican party who did not support you at the last election. Three distinguished Democrats,—two of them public men, and the other of exceptional literary and educational note,—held to me exactly the same language. They all talked with me of your immense administrative power and success, as evinced in such questions as the Panama Canal, the Eussian and Japanese war, the Labor troubles, and other like matters; and they all spoke of, and seemed to

sympathize with, the wide-spread affection
which your
countrymen feel for you. The Eepublicans,
men of the
highest eminence, held the same language on
both heads;
and in their case the personal feeling for you
was based
upon a far more intimate knowledge. They
seemed in this
respect to share the sentiment of their party.
I hope you
will take it from me that all those of whom I
write are
practical and able men, of high and deserved
reputation.

The deduction I draw from these letters and
conversa-
tions is a conviction that it is of untold
importance that you
should have a leading part at this
conjuncture. What